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**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

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(406) 444-4249 (FAX)  
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**Linda McCulloch  
Secretary of State**

To: Potential 2014 Major Party Candidate or Candidate for a Nonpartisan Office

From: Linda McCulloch, Secretary of State

Thank you for your inquiry about qualifying as a major party candidate or as a candidate filing for a nonpartisan office for the 2014 election cycle.

Please see below and attached information about filing for office.

You can use the online candidate filing service at <http://sos.mt.gov/Elections/Filing> to file for office and pay the filing fee - available at 8:00 a.m. January 9, 2014; or file in person at the Secretary of State's office or by mail or fax (filing fee must be paid at time of filing).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary of State, Elections and Government Services at (406) 444-5346 or [soselections@mt.gov](mailto:soselections@mt.gov) or visit our website at [sos.mt.gov](http://sos.mt.gov).

You may also wish to contact the Commissioner of Political Practices at (406) 444-2942 for campaign finance information.

Links: [Declaration for Nomination and Oath of Candidacy](#)  
[Title 13 Election Laws](#)



**Information for Major Party Candidates**  
*Montana Secretary of State Linda McCulloch*  
*Elections and Government Services*  
[soselections@mt.gov](mailto:soselections@mt.gov) • [www.sos.mt.gov](http://www.sos.mt.gov)

◆ **Filing Deadlines** ([13-10-503](#), MCA)

- January 9, 2014      First day to file Declaration and Oath of Candidacy, and pay filing fee (unless indigent) with appropriate filing officer
- March 10, 2014      Deadline to file Declaration and Oath of Candidacy, and pay filing fee (unless indigent) with appropriate filing officer

◆ **Other Important Information**

- The candidate declaration form cannot be filed with the appropriate filing officer before January 9, 2014.
- You can use the online candidate filing service at <http://sos.mt.gov/Elections/Filing> to file for office and pay the filing fee - available at 8:00 a.m. January 9, 2014; or file in person at the Secretary of State's office or by mail or fax (filing fee must be paid at time of filing).
- An individual cannot file as a major party, independent, or minor party candidate for a nonpartisan office.
- Under [13-10-201](#), MCA, a candidate may not file for more than one office (except for precinct committee representative). Similarly, for a partisan election, an elector may not file a declaration for more than one party's nomination.
- A declaration for nomination must be filed in the office of:
  - ✓ the Secretary of State for placement of a name on the ballot for a congressional office, a state or district office to be voted for in more than one county, a judge of the district court, or a member of the legislature;
  - ✓ the election administrator for a county, municipal, precinct, or district office (other than a judge of the district court or a member of the legislature) to be voted for in only one county.
- An individual who files as an indigent candidate is not required to pay a filing fee, but must submit signatures to county election administrator(s) totaling 5% or more of the total votes cast for the successful candidate for the same office at the last general election. For more information about filing as an indigent candidate, see <http://sos.mt.gov/Elections/Filing>.